

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph [0061] in the specification with the following paragraph:

[0061] FIG 6b is an a functional block diagram of an alternative embodiment of the present invention, in which a medium 652, such as a magnetic stripe, is fixed to the exterior of a chip card 650, also known in the transaction card industry as a smart card. A medium fixed to a chip card fashioned in such a way is known in the smart card applications industry as defining a hybrid card, or more specifically, a hybrid chip card. The Jitter Signature is calculated from the medium 652 and stored in a memory device 654, such as an integrated circuit chip, within the chip card 652. In yet another embodiment of this invention, the Jitter Signature can be used to authenticate the chip card 650, and thus secure the information that is stored on the memory 654, by requiring that the Jitter Signature that is stored within the memory 654 match a Jitter Signature that is read from a medium 652. Accordingly, attempts to duplicate the chip card 650 would be detected, since the Jitter Signature cannot be duplicated. The security of data in the chip card 650 can be further enhanced by encrypting the data with the "Jitter Signature" being used as an encryption key.

Please replace paragraph [0063] in the specification with the following paragraph:

The use of Jitter Modulation allows the Jitter Signature to be encoded into the medium without disrupting the format of the medium. For example, the format used to store data on a magnetic stripe does not provide a location on the document for storing a Jitter Signature. The present invention can be used to secure such a magnetic stripe by generating a Jitter Signature from a first portion of the information encoded on the stripe, and storing the Jitter Signature encoded using Jitter Modulation in a second portion of the information. This magnetic stripe having a first portion of information and a second portion of information can be located on a simple magnetic stripe card or as described in FIG 6b above, on a magnetic stripe fixed to the